



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, and TREATMENT (CAPIT) PROGRAM

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Questions may be directed to the Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) at (916) 651-6960.

THE CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND TREATMENT (CAPIT) PROGRAM

I. Purpose

Assembly Bill 1733 (Chapter 1398, Statutes of 1982) provided the first major commitment of State General Fund dollars to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to fund child abuse and neglect prevention projects in all 58 counties. The Child Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment (CAPIT) Program requirements are now contained in Welfare and Institution Code Sections 18960-18964. The intent of the program is to encourage child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs by the funding of agencies addressing needs of children at high risk of abuse or neglect and their families.

Assembly Bill 2779 (Chapter 329, Statutes of 1998) augmented funding for CAPIT, but the additional funding was subsequently rescinded due to budget constraints.

II. Funding

Funds to the State

The CAPIT funding is 100 percent State General Fund and is subject to appropriation in the annual Budget Act. These funds are used to fulfill federal [Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention](#) (CBCAP) grant matching and leveraging requirements. The State Children's Trust Fund receives seven (7) percent of the funds. Of the remainder, the CDSS receives about eight (8) percent of the funding for its use for state contracts for training, technical assistance, innovative projects and are also used as a match for the five year federal Linkages grant.

Funds to Counties

A little more than ninety two (92) percent of the remainder of the funds is allocated to counties. Small counties receive a minimum funding level, and the remainder is allocated to counties using a formula that considers a county's child population, children receiving public assistance and the number of child abuse reports.

Applicant agencies must demonstrate the existence of a ten (10) percent cash or in-kind match (other than funding provided by the CDSS), which will support the goals of child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention. Funding can be used to supplement, but not supplant, child welfare services.

III. Program Features

Service priority is to be given to prevention programs provided through nonprofit agencies, including, where appropriate, programs that identify and provide services to isolated families, particularly those with children five years of age or younger. Service priority is also to be given to high quality home visiting programs based on research-based models of best practice, and services to child victims of crime.

Projects funded by CAPIT should be selected through a competitive process, and priority given to private, nonprofit agencies with programs that serve the needs of children at risk of abuse or neglect and that have demonstrated effectiveness in prevention or intervention.

In order to be eligible for funding, agencies must provide evidence, submitted as part of the application, to demonstrate broad-based community support. In addition, the application must contain that proposed services cannot be duplicative of other services in the community, must be based on the needs of children at risk, and are supported by a local public agency. These are including, but not limited to, one of the following:

- the county welfare department
- a public law enforcement agency
- the county probation department
- the county board of supervisors
- the county public health department
- the county mental health department
- a school district

Services provided shall be culturally and linguistically appropriate to the population served and may include, but not be limited to, family counseling, day care, respite care, teaching and demonstrating homemaking, family workers, transportation, temporary in-home caretakers, psychiatric evaluations, health services, multidisciplinary team services, and special law enforcement services.

Training and technical assistance shall be provided by private, nonprofit agencies to those agencies funded by CAPIT. Training and technical assistance shall encompass all of the following: multidisciplinary approaches to child abuse prevention, intervention and treatment; facilitation of local service networks; establishment and support of child abuse councils; dissemination of information addressing issues of child abuse among multicultural and special needs populations.

IV. Target Population for CAPIT

Priority for services shall be given to children who are at high risk, including children who are being served by the county welfare departments for being abused and neglected, and other children who are referred for services by legal, medical, or social services agencies.

Projects funded by CAPIT need to clearly be related to addressing the unmet needs of children, especially those 14 years of age and under. Services for minority populations shall also be reflected in the funding of projects.

V. Program Oversight

The [Office of Child Abuse Prevention](#) (OCAP) within the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has been designated as the single state agency to administer and oversee the funds.

Counties are required to submit annual reports to OCAP on program services. The board of supervisors of each county shall provide a list of projects funded in the prior fiscal year. The report shall include by each of the listed projects: the amounts granted to the projects; the expenditures; a description of services provided; the population served; and the results of the provision of services.

Each county shall monitor the projects that are funded by CAPIT. The OCAP provides administrative oversight and consultation to ensure that each county (1) allocates revenues through the use of an accountable process that utilizes a multidisciplinary approach and (2) ensures compliance and adherence with the county plan and the legislative intent.

VI. References

[Welfare and Institution Code Sections 18960-18964](#) establishes the funding.

Welfare and Institutions Code Section 18961(2) (A-G) contains the definition of services.

Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 18961(7) (A-D) contains the definition of training and technical assistance.